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8/6/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: MERKULOV et al.

Serial No.: 09/777,921

Filed: February 7, 2001

For: ISOLATED HUMAN TRANSPORTER
PROTEINS, NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES
ENCODING HUMAN TRANSPORTER
PROTEINS, AND USES THEREOF

Art Unit: 1646

Examiner: John Ulm

Atty. Docket: CL001103

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

By Facsimile

Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action from Examiner Ulm mailed on June 5, 2002 in which a restriction requirement was issued for the above referenced application.

By way of response, Applicants hereby elect claim group III, claims 4-6, 8-11, and 22-23, directed to nucleic acid molecules, vectors, host cells, etc., for examination and have canceled claims corresponding to the non-elected groups I-II and IV-X.

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-3, 5-7, and 10-23 as being directed to non-elected subject matter or being made redundant by way of the amendments below.